

Application Serial No. 10/523,554
Reply to Office Action of October 3, 2006

PATENT
Docket: CU-4066

Amendments to the Claims

The listing of claims presented below replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of claims:

1. (currently amended) ~~Grate intended to be~~ A grate mounted in a frame ~~to close a drain or similar opening and, the grate~~ comprising: interlaced grids, at least one of the grids of the grate being elastically deformable with respect to the other grids and including:

~~wherein the grate includes a locking pin that can be locked to~~ releasably engages the frame so that the grate ~~will be~~ is elastically fixed in the frame,

~~wherein the elastically deformable grid is an internal grid of the grate and at a free end of the grate the locking pin is located below a solid external edge of the grate and the locking pin extends transversally in a direction which is transverse to the direction in which the solid external edge elastically deformable grid extends (2) in such a way that the pin will be protected and practically invisible from the outside in the installed position of the grate in the frame.~~

2. (currently amended) Grate according to Claim 1, further comprising a second elastically deformable internal grid having at a free end of the second elastically deformable internal grid a locking pin that ~~can be locked to~~ releasably engages the frame and which is located below another solid external edge of the grate, opposite to the solid external edge for protecting the pin of the first internal grid and extending transversally in a direction which is transverse to the direction in which another solid external edge extends ~~second elastically deformable grid in such a way as to make it possible for the grate to be fastened elastically in the frame independently of the relative orientation.~~

3. (currently amended) Grate according to Claim 2, further comprising a ~~sheet of parallel grids comprising the two parallel~~ internal elastically deformable grids and the ~~transverse grids and,~~ wherein each locking pin is an extension of the ~~corresponding~~ two internal [[grid]] elastically deformable grids and the locking pins are offset toward a bottom with respect to the external surface of ~~this grid~~ the elastically deformable grids

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so that ~~it can be arranged~~ the locking pins fit under the corresponding solid external edge of the grate ~~and of which an external surface of the locking pins is in the same plane as that of the internal grid.~~

4. (previously presented) Grate according to Claim 1, wherein the locking pin engages elastically with force into a part with the shape of a locking hook that is attached to an internal face of the corresponding lateral wall of the frame and located close to one corner of the corresponding lateral wall of frame.

5. (currently amended) Grate according to Claim 4, wherein the locking pin comprises a curved guiding ramp elongated by a free end with a rounded pin engaging into the part with the shape of a locking hook at the free end ~~[[(10a)]]~~ that is also rounded and allowing an elastic unlocking of the pin from the part with the shape of a hook at the time of removal of the grate from the frame to maintain its open position.

6. (currently amended) Grate according to Claim 2, wherein ~~the grate can be extracted from the frame on one side or on the opposite side by introduction of a tool, into the a space exiting is provided~~ between the frame and the external grid of the grate adjacent to the internal elastically deformable grid ~~and exercising below the external grid a force for lifting and unlocking the grate.~~

7. (previously presented) Grate according to Claim 4, further comprising four support feet located at the four corners of the grate respectively, and each is maintained in contact on the seating surface located in one corner of the frame by a locking force exercised by the two parts with the shape of a hook on the two locking pins.

8. (currently amended) Grate according to Claim 2, wherein ~~once unlocked from one side or the other, the grate can pivot by its opposite~~ pivots at a side relative to the frame until ~~[[it]]~~ the grate is held in the frame at an angular open position of around 120°.

9. (currently amended) Grate according to Claim 8, wherein the grate is retained in the frame in ~~[[its]]~~ said open position by two ~~of the~~ support feet located on the same side

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and blocked in contact on two upright walls, respectively of the frame and of which one is made up by a part with the shape of a locking hook.

10. (currently amended) Grate according to Claim 1, wherein the grate ~~can be directly and completely removed~~ is unattached from the frame ~~after unlocking by release of the locking pin from the frame.~~

11. (previously presented) Grate according to Claim 2, wherein the locking pins are essentially diagonally opposed.

12. (currently amended) Grate according to Claim 3, wherein the ~~parallel grids and the transverse grids~~ on one side of the grate define parallel openings for passage of flowing water ~~[[and]]~~ that are orientated transversely to openings on the other side, ~~define the transverse openings for passage of flowing water, and of the grate is fixed in a frame in such a way that the parallel openings will be arranged on a sidewalk side and the transverse openings will be arranged on a roadway side, independently of the direction of fastening of the frame in a roadway.~~